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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17.

Rien's soul, like John Brown's, will go marching on.

PHILADELPHIA is contemplating the sale of her gas works, a property that has been extremely prolific of municipal scandals.

FRISCO and Yale are to have a competitive test of their respective systems of leg culture on the Polo grounds, in New York, next Saturday.

When Congress meets the country will learn that there is not an iota of truth in the reports of great changes in the silver question on the part of southern and western representatives.

"NEARLY all the college graduates are free traders," says a Western Democratic contemporary. This is not true as to the alumni of most of the colleges, but we believe it is about correct as to the Vassar alumni.

It appears that for the same services for which salaries of teachers in New York range from \$750 to \$1,150, the Philadelphia school teachers are compelled to be content with salaries ranging from \$320 to \$470 a year. No wonder that the Quaker city is rated as "unhappily provincial."

Upon heading a revolt occasioned by admitted oppression and injustice in various forms Louis Riel was put to death yesterday by the government whose maladministration occasioned the uprising. A greater hinderer has not been committed by the government of any enlightened nation for many years.

It is hoped that the forty-ninth Congress will make a speedy and final decision as to the unfinished double-turreted monitors. If they are to be finished let the work go on. If they are not to be completed they should be broken up. There has been enough of delay, and quite too much of wrangling about these vessels.

The New York Herald thinks "the success of the Irish home rule party is so near that it would be far better for Englandmen to accept the inevitable with a good grace. They would find more in compromise than in defeat." This is a good suggestion, but such advice will do no good. Home rule will not be conceded until it can be deferred no longer. That time is not far off.

A WASHINGTON telegram to the Boston Journal quotes a prominent official as saying that "the President has the most accurate knowledge of the civil service law and rules; that he quotes from memory, and refers to sections and articles by their numbers; that he will be the head of the civil service commission; that he has construed the law for himself, and has instructed the commissioners rather than sought their advice." All this being true, the President's mind must be deeply impressed with the fact that the great central idea of the law is to secure non-partisan service by honest competition.

As Louisville, on Saturday, Alf Little, one of Kentucky's heroes, was sentenced by the United States circuit court to fifteen years in the penitentiary for forging pension papers and postoffice orders. Prior to his arrest by the United States marshal, federal post this illustrious Kentuckian had been credited with the murder of fourteen men, although he was 45 years of age. The telegram, which tells the story of his conviction, says that "before he reached the age of twenty he had killed three brothers. Once, when passing a sick man's house, he entered the sick chamber, dragged the invalid out of bed, and killed him to death. A year or so ago the militia had to be ordered out to suppress Little." But he was not suppressed. If the national government had not invaded Kentucky and seized her hero in the full tide of his great career, he might easily have added twenty-five more murders to his magnificent record. Why does not the central government confine itself to its constitutional duty—of waving the flag and making appropriations?

The king of Burmah, Theobald, caused the present trouble between his own land and Great Britain by imposing a heavy tax on the British Bombay and Burmah Trading Company, which has a lease for working the teak and other Burmah forests. Now, says the company: "We will not pay any such tax. You shall," replies his majesty. "I shall," answers the peace-loving company. "No," thunders the king. It happens that a French company wants a lease of this same attractive property. Theobald says to the French: "I will willing. What terms?" Moreover, the monarch is in a friendly mood by granting to a Frenchman certain exclusive privilege in Upper Burmah, contrary to an existing treaty forbidding him to grant monopolies. British business and interests in Burmah are interfered with. Great Britain will not hear it. "Business is business," maintain the French, and incoherently prepare, unawares, to swallow Burmah.

The English Campaign.

Church disestablishment and all other questions save the one great issue of the hour have been in the foreground of the recent utterances of Mr. Gladstone. The Irish question is at the front and is going to stay there till it is settled, whenever that time may be.

The New York Herald's Dublin special states that the Home Office's disavowal in favor of modified home rule has created a flutter among the nationalists, and a little shaking of the head among the "loyalist" sections. Both sides, the correspondent says, now agree that Mr. Parnell's triumph is merely a question of time. Mr. Gladstone's confession that the English parties cannot be trusted to resist Irish pressure while Mr. Parnell has power to sustain or overthrow English ministries, the Herald writer finds, has had an especially depressing effect on both sides. The Home Office, Every Irishman believes that Mr. Parnell will have this power in the next parliament, unless some unforeseen and as yet most unlikely division should spring up among the Irish members themselves.

The New York Sun's London special believes that the liberal majority will probably be so small as to make them dependent upon Parnell. The correspondent adds that although Mr. Gladstone has privately declared that he will not move in the Irish question without a decisive majority over both Tories and Parnellites, it is more probable that when he finds himself face to face with this great question he will resist the temptation to attempt its solution.

The Irish cause is, at last, in a fair way to a just settlement in the near future. All the friends of home rule, on both sides of the ocean, are united. No other great re-

form in any country has made such progress as this has achieved during the last six months. We believe it will move steadily on to victory, and that the English people will find the change conducive to the peace and prosperity of the United Kingdom.

Consular Matters.

Among the timely suggestions submitted to the Secretary of War for his consideration in the preparation of his annual report are two or three of unusual interest and value from Acting Judge Advocate General Lifer. They are of a decidedly progressive character, affording conclusive proof that the bureau of military justice has not entirely neglected recent opportunities for the acquisition of valuable knowledge. They show, too, that, in the pursuit of knowledge, this bureau of the army is capable of invading naval circles and learning from eminent lawyers who defend clients arraigned before naval tribunals.

The Judge Advocate General says, that of the one hundred and twenty-seven articles which are required by law to be read and published to every garrison, regiment, troop, or company in the army once in six months, but are fifty-four which need to be read, as they alone constitute the military penal code.

What this officer says of these articles is strictly true. Fifty-four of them constitute the military code in its fullest amplitude, and his recommendation that the others be eliminated is creditable to his intelligence. It will be remembered that Messrs. Jeff. Chandler and Geo. S. Boutwell, as attorneys and Paymaster General Samuel J. May, made and passed the law that there was a lack of anything like definiteness in the prosecution of their client. The charges and specifications were nebulous and vague, as much as possible to an indictment in a civil case. What particularly galled him had violated, when and how he had violated it, were not stated. He was arraigned and a drag-net was spread to find something on which a conviction might possibly be procured. Against this manifestly holding a distinguished counsel protested and prevailed.

If their argument failed to exert due influence in the Navy Department, it was evidently weighed by the Judge Advocate General of the army. Hence his movement to strike out irrelevant articles, and make the military code clear and simple.

Another important suggestion of Gen. Lifer relates to the conduct of trials by court-martial. He says it "has become the recognized right of the accused to be represented by counsel before a court-martial, and when so represented, the prosecution is apt to be conducted with an amount of interest which must unfit the prosecutor for any other relationship to the court." This is a plain statement of a patent fact. "Yet," continues the Judge Advocate General, "under the present law, the accused is not permitted to be represented by counsel, and the prosecutor for the government, the recorder and the legal adviser of the court. These functions are apt to be irreconcilable with that of prosecutor, as is also his relation to the accused." For these reasons, the proposed code of military justice excludes the counsel from the secret sessions of the court, where the accused is unrepresented, for here he may, by a word, or the infliction of a word, or by a gesture even, unwittingly influence its judgment—thus rendering it a possible judgment of fact or false expression.

It is almost marvelous that this outrage has been tolerated to the present time, and it will be disgraced to Congress and the country if it is permitted to continue longer. Under the present law, the great central idea of the law is to secure non-partisan service by honest competition.

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public are more aristocratic than those of European monarchies. The distances between the cultivated man and the common soldier in our service is immeasurable, the chain unbreakable. There are officers, of course, who treat the man under them with kindly consideration and are capable of maintaining the strict discipline while winning and holding the respect and confidence of their men. But there are too many who have no feeling of sympathy or kindness for an enlisted man, regarding him as a creature made to constitute, when aggregated in considerable numbers, communities for superior beings holding commissions.

For an officer for which an enlisted man gets double rations, imprisonment, loss of pay, and disgraceful dismissal from the service a commissioned officer gets suspension from rank and duty. In other words, he is condemned to draw his pay without doing anything to earn it.

Suppose such a mode of punishment were adopted in the civil service, how would it operate? For example, a clerk of the third class is charged with some serious offense. Investigation proves his guilt. The culprit is then called up and sentenced to suspension from duty for six years, his pay to go on!

Parties in France.

Now that our own elections are over and the excitement dying out, we have time for such careful consideration of the affairs of our great European neighbor, the French Republic, as has not hitherto been practicable.

Telegraphic articles have kept the reader informed of the results of both the recent elections for members of the new chamber of deputies. It is known that the republicans, by a sudden change in the current of public sentiment, have secured a second election, succeeded in obtaining a strong majority, but there is no disguising the fact that the party has received a serious warning from the country. On the first ballot the reactionaries about doubled their numbers, and gained twenty-six more seats. On Oct. 4 the country elected 130 republicans and 176 reactionaries; on the 18th it chose 243 republicans and 25 reactionaries. If to these 373 republicans we add the ten electors, by the vote of which there were no reactionaries, tickets—it will be seen that they will have in the next chamber a majority of 180 votes. The new chamber will contain 250 members, or more than one-half, who belonged to the old assembly; of this number 223 are republicans and 27 reactionaries.

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structure which gives proper accommodations to one may not be easily made to fit another.

As to the location of the proposed building, that is a question which we are quite willing to leave for the decision of Congress. There is, however, no occasion to dread the possible operations of any ring, real or imaginary. By the right of eminent domain Congress can order the condemnation and appropriation of any site or sites for the building, and this is a power which should not be made necessary by extortionate demands, but which furnishes an easy means of escape from extortion. It is not to be assumed that owners of real estate would attempt to get fanciful prices made from rank and duty. In other words, the government can take whatever ground it may want at a price to be determined by referees.

The District building should be large enough for the Washington of 1905, and should be, in all respects, a commodious and attractive edifice. It should be fire proof, and the walls should be of granite. On the strong grounds of pressing necessity and true economy we expect the forty-ninth Congress, at its first session, to pass a bill providing for the selection of a site and the inauguration of the work of construction.

Ordnance and Torpedo Boats.

Commodore Seward, in his forthcoming report, "again recommends the purchase of a swift torpedo boat abroad."

This plan of going abroad for implements of warfare has not heretofore found much favor or many advocates among us, and has been realistic enough to attract except by agents of English builders.

Some fifteen years ago a member of the House naval committee asked the late Commodore Jeffers, then chief of ordnance, for his opinion as to the expediency of purchasing a hundred torpedo boats from England, and he replied that he had no objection to the navy, proposing to introduce a bill in the House for that purpose, in case the ordnance bureau favored it.

The commodore promptly objected, stating that the Krupp guns of that day were not up to the requirements of the service, and would be obsolete or nearly so in ten years. He, therefore, recommended, in place of the proposed purchase of the best foreign guns of that day which the United States had no immediate use for, an appropriation to improve the facilities for making guns in the ordnance shop of the Washington navy yard.

"If," said Commodore Jeffers, "you adopt my suggestion, you will, in a few years, have the skilled labor, machinery, and tools for the construction of the best guns in the world right here at home. On the other hand, all the money you expend in the purchase of foreign-made guns is absolutely thrown away."

The wise counsel of the commodore was not followed. The Krupp guns were purchased for the Washington ordnance shop as suggested, and continued making appropriations up to the present time; and now the establishment is turning out the best steel guns in the world!

With a majority of 180 votes the Republicans would be able to have their own way if they were united, but the great question at this moment is, Can they sink their petty animosities and agree upon a common policy? While the moderates are numerically a little stronger than the radicals, they can form no ministry without their consent, for it is the radicals who have gained the victory and will practically be the masters of the new chamber. The progress of democracy toward radicalism is shown by the fact that while the chamber of 1877 was pure left, that of 1881 was union republican, and now it will be extreme left. From 70 or 80 the radicals have jumped to 150. This increase has naturally caused the reactionaries to look upon the radicals with a suspicious eye, and a different one from that pursued by the opportunists in the last chamber, and they are already indicating the principal points in the new legislative program.

While extreme parties like Rochefort, Blanqui, and Gambetta are the first to ask the first questions to be decided are the separation of church and state, the election of magistrates, suppression of the senate, and a reduction of taxes, the more serious matters seem willing to agree upon a policy of extension of the franchise, the abandonment of colonial expeditions, and the reform of the home administration. In fact, an examination of the manifestos issued by the candidates elected shows that 230 republicans were chosen as opposed to an immediate abrogation of the concordat, and as for the extension of the franchise, the radicals declared themselves hostile to this change. The election of magistrates was not a leading issue in the campaign, and there were very few republicans who promised this reform. Another demand made by a very few of the extreme radicals is the trial of Mr. Jules Ferry, for his action as minister in the Tonkin affair, but this wild idea will certainly not meet with sufficient encouragement to become a reality. Upon two points it will be possible for the various sections of the republicans to find common ground, the foundation of colonial enterprises and the realization of a policy of economy. It is upon this basis that an attempt is now making to bring about a understanding.

The session of the chambers will be exciting, if not stormy, but friends of the republic on this side of the ocean have learned that storms and crises are not signs of imminent danger.

The results of the warning of Oct. 4 have been salutary and the good effects will be lasting. The republic will give up its dangerous foreign policy and the government will be able to devote its energies to the most important of domestic concerns. We believe the French republic has come to stay.

A District Building.

The District commissioners have very properly taken the time to consider the next fiscal year a sum deemed sufficient for the inauguration of the work of erecting a building for the use of the District government.

This city is destitute of anything like a hall of justice. The offices of the District Commissioners are located, without much regard to convenience, in such structures as can be rented from time to time. Suitable buildings for such uses cannot be had. Some of those occupied by District officials are of a character that would be a disgrace to the city. Valuable books and papers are exposed to imminent danger of destruction by fire. Great loss of time is occasioned by having the offices remote from each other and from their common head. And as for economy, this remote District building is the worst sort of extravagance. The rentals paid are very largely in excess of the amount that would be required for interest and repairs on a large, handsome, and commodious edifice that would amply accommodate all the departments and offices of the District government.

It is urged that we are likely to have such a change or changes in our plan or form of government as would necessitate the use of different buildings from those now required, the ready and sufficient answer is that a District building, a central headquarters for all departments of local government, must be necessary under any system that may be adopted. It is evident, too, that a structure suited to existing conditions could be readily adapted to other conditions. The probable forms of municipal government do not differ so widely in the matter of shelter that a

structure which gives proper accommodations to one may not be easily made to fit another.

As to the location of the proposed building, that is a question which we are quite willing to leave for the decision of Congress. There is, however, no occasion to dread the possible operations of any ring, real or imaginary. By the right of eminent domain Congress can order the condemnation and appropriation of any site or sites for the building, and this is a power which should not be made necessary by extortionate demands, but which furnishes an easy means of escape from extortion. It is not to be assumed that owners of real estate would attempt to get fanciful prices made from rank and duty. In other words, the government can take whatever ground it may want at a price to be determined by referees.

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out of the country. He heard the report. A man of energy and determination, he would not turn his back on his enemies. On the contrary, he determined to procure documentary evidence from the land office to prove that they had committed perjury. This design he carried into effect. He never returned home.

On the 17th of October last his body was found hanging to a tree. A card attached to the breast indicated vigilance as responsible for the murder. An autopsy proved the manner of death to be strangulation. His death was really caused by a shot-gun wound inflicted several hours before the hanging. Detectives were sent for by a relative of the deceased. They arrived from San Francisco. The discovery of the body, a package of papers relating to the land troubles, known to have been in his possession at that time, was not to be found. Moreover, immediately after the murder, his house was violently entered and all writings relating to the land troubles were stolen. The unfortunate man was over 70 years of age. His life had been one of benevolent deeds; his death has produced intense feeling and expressions of regret not confined to the Pacific slope.

The Balkan War.

The Servians look anything like a justified victor in the Balkan war. They have opened on Bulgaria. They have had no provocation at all, nor can their apologists frame any decent excuse for the invasion of their neighbor's territory. Not even our war in Mexico, thirty odd years ago, was more unprovokedly violent than the Servian campaign. The Servians have not only opened on Bulgaria, they have had no provocation at all, nor can their apologists frame any decent excuse for the invasion of their neighbor's territory. Not even our war in Mexico, thirty odd years ago, was more unprovokedly violent than the Servian campaign. The Servians have not only opened on Bulgaria, they have had no provocation at all, nor can their apologists frame any decent excuse for the invasion of their neighbor's territory. Not even our war in Mexico, thirty odd years ago, was more unprovokedly violent than the Servian campaign. 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